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**MAN SENTENCED IN PLOT TO DISABLE
ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION TOWERS**

SACRAMENTO—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott, of the Eastern District of California, announced today that MICHAEL DEVLYN POULIN, 62, of Spokane, Washington was sentenced to 27 months imprisonment, and ordered to pay \$37,000 restitution as a result of a crime spree last Fall in which he removed or loosened bolts on over 20 electrical transmission towers in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) with the assistance of the California Highway Patrol, the California Anti-Terrorism Information Center (CATIC), the Sacramento Police Department, the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, the Anderson Police Department, the Elk Grove Police Department, the California Department of Motor Vehicles, and several local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in Oregon and Washington. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney R. Steven Lapham.

On November 19, 2003, POULIN pled guilty to Informations filed in the Eastern District of California, and the District of Oregon charging him with tampering with electrical transmissions towers in Anderson, California, and Klamath Falls, Oregon. Pursuant to the plea agreement, POULIN admitted to tampering with over twenty electrical transmission towers in the four states mentioned above. In the plea agreement, POULIN admitted that he removed all of the bolts from two of the four legs of a 230,000 volt tower near Anderson, and that he loosened or removed most of the bolts from a third leg. He also admitted that earlier that day he had succeeded in removing all of the bolts from one leg of a 540,000 volt transmission tower near Klamath Falls before being discovered, and fleeing the scene. Although none of the towers toppled as a result of POULIN's actions, the court determined that the potential loss had all the affected towers collapsed would have been between \$400,000 and \$1,000,000.

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